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Written on AUGUST 3, 2012 AT 2:27 PM by JWICK

Surgeon General's Medical Service Corps birthday message

Filed under FLEET AND THE FLEET MARINE FORCE. LEADERSHIP. U.S. NAVY

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By Vice Adm. Matthew L. Nathan, U.S. Navy Surgeon General



On behalf of Navy Medicine and a grateful nation, I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the Medical Service Corps as they celebrate 65 years of faithful and dedicated service.

After the outbreak of World War II, on Aug. 4, 1947, President Harry Truman signed the Army-Navy Medical Service Corps Act, establishing a permanent officer category to complement the existing medical department officer corps. Since then, the Medical Service Corps has become an indispensable component of Navy Medicine, serving 31 specialties ranging from clinical providers to

scientists to health care administrators.

This past year, I have witnessed your many achievements and contributions at home and abroad. Whether serving at sea, on deployments and humanitarian missions, clinics, inpatient facilities, and research units around the world, Medical Service Corps officers continue to lead from the front lines. Your commitment and service have left an unprecedented mark on the history of the United States Navy. I am confident you will continue to make Navy Medicine the leader in health care delivery.

The Medical Service Corps has both a proud tradition and a bright future. I am proud to serve with such an outstanding group of professionals. To the over 2,900 active duty and reserve Medical Service Corps officers, congratulations on a job well done and happy 65th birthday!

For the U.S. Navy News Service story celebrating the Medical Service Corps' birthday click [here](#).

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Navy Medicine is a global healthcare network of 63,000 Navy medical personnel around the world who provide high quality health care to more than one million eligible beneficiaries. Navy Medicine personnel deploy with Sailors and Marines worldwide, providing critical mission support aboard ship, in the air, under the sea and on the battlefield.

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Rear Adm. Michael H. Mittelman, deputy chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery and deputy surgeon
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